

2024 Mock Newbery Discussion #1

July 24, 2023

It's time to start taking a closer look at the children's books of 2023. Participating in the Mock Newbery is an opportunity to read the newest children's books and to discuss them with other passionate readers. A letter of participation is available for those applying the Mock Newbery program towards professional development.

Program registration: <https://tinyurl.com/RInewbery24>

Mock Newbery Discussion #1

Wednesday, October 18 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Virtual Zoom Discussion, [register for login link](#)

2024 Mock Newbery Reading List #1

1. *A Bit of Earth* by Karuna Riazi
2. *Aniana del Mar Jumps In* by Jasminne Mendez
3. *Big Tree* by Brian Selznick
4. *Conjure Island* by Eden Royce
5. *Ebb and Flow* by Heather Smith
6. *A First Time for Everything* by Dan Santat
7. *The Ghosts of Rancho Espanto* by Adrianna Cuevas
8. *Ginny Off the Map* by Caroline Hickey
9. *Good Different* by Meg Eden Kuyatt
10. *Grounded* by Aisha Saeed
11. *Hands* by Torrey Maldonado
12. *How to Stay Invisible* by Maggie Rudd
13. *The Labors of Hercules Beal* by Gary D. Schmidt
14. *Leeva At Last* by Sara Pennypacker
15. *The Lost Year: A Survival Story of the Ukrainian Famine* by Katherine Marsh
16. *Not an Easy Win* by Chrystal D. Giles
17. *Race Against Death: The Greatest POW Rescue of World War II* by Deborah Hopkinson
18. *Simon Sort of Says* by Erin Bow
19. *Superpod: Saving the Endangered Orcas of the Pacific Northwest* by Nora Nickum
20. *The Many Assassinations of Samir, the Seller of Dreams* by Daniel Nayeri
21. *What Happened to Rachel Riley?* by Claire Sinarski
22. *When Clouds Touch Us* by Thanh Hà Lai
23. *When Sea Becomes Sky* by Gillian McDunn
24. *The Windeby Puzzle* by Lois Lowry
25. *A Work in Progress* by Jarrett Lerner
26. *You Are Here: Connecting Flights* by Ellen Oh

Please send suggested titles for Reading List #2 by October 20th to: danielle.margarida@olis.ri.gov
Reading List #2 will be available October 23rd at <http://www.olis.ri.gov/youth/newbery/index.php>

Voting for a Rhode Island winner and honor books will take place on January 17, 2024 using the balloting procedures of the real committee.

Continuing sessions:

Mock Newbery Discussion #2

Wednesday, December 6, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Virtual Zoom Discussion, [Register](#)

Mock Newbery Discussion #3 - Voting

Wednesday, January 17, 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Virtual Zoom Discussion, [Register](#)

The Newbery Medal is awarded annually to the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children published in the United States during the preceding year. The Award is restricted to authors who are citizens or residents of the United States.

Criteria:

1. In identifying "Distinguished Writing" in a book for children,

a. Committee members need to consider the following:

- Interpretation of the theme or concept
- Presentation of information including accuracy, clarity, and organization
- Development of a plot
- Delineation of characters
- Delineation of setting
- Appropriateness of style

Note: Because the literary qualities to be considered will vary depending on content, the committee need not expect to find excellence in each of the named elements. The book should, however, have distinguished qualities in all of the elements pertinent to it.

b. Committee members must consider excellence of presentation for a child audience.

2. Each book is to be considered as a contribution to American literature. The committee is to make its decision primarily on the text. Other components of a book, such as illustrations, overall design of the book, etc., may be considered when they make the book less effective.

3. The book must be a self-contained entity, not dependent on other media (i.e., sound or film equipment) for its enjoyment.

Note: The committee should keep in mind that the award is for literary quality and quality presentation for children. The award is not for didactic content or popularity.

Adopted by the ALSC Board, January 1978. Revised, Midwinter 1987. Revised, Annual 2008.